

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00270 171452Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 H-02 L-03 SSO-00 /024 W  
-----031100 171455Z /47

O 161448Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6009  
INFO AMCONSUL TORONTO

UNCLAS OTTAWA 00270

E.D. 11652 N/A  
TAGS: CPRS, CA  
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST - CLAIMS CASE

REF: STATE 9886, OTTAWA 00241

1. CONGRESSMAN ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO INTEREST. EMBASSY IS INFORMED THAT RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS BY U.S. GROUPS AGAINST PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS CONSULTANTS, LTD, OF OTTAWA AND TORONTO HAVE BEEN DELAYED BY NEED FOR EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATIONS AND AUDITING OUTSIDE OF CANADA. PRINCIPALS OF DEFUNCT FIRM ARE IN NEW YORK, AND BULK OF CLAIMANTS IN CALIFORNIA. TRAVEL INDUSTRY COMPENSATION FUND BOARD HAS ENGAGED OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO EVALUATE CLAIMS AND HOPES TO REACH DECISION ON COUNSEL'S ADVICE AT MEETING JANUARY 17, 1978 IN TORONTO.

2. CANADIAN OFFICIALS ASSURE THAT THERE IS NO DISCRIMINATION AMONG CLAIMANTS BASED ON NATIONALITY. COMPLEXITY OF CASE ALONE IS REASON FOR DELAY. ALTHOUGH IT IS HOPED THAT EVERYTHING CAN BE RESOLVED JANUARY 17, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT TRAVEL INDUSTRY COMPENSATION FUND AND ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES ARE AUTONOMOUS AND NOT SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENTAL CONTROL OR INFLUENCE.

3. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT  
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00270 171452Z

PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS CONSULTANTS WAS U.S.-OWNED AND ONE FACTOR UNDER INVESTIGATION IS WHETHER IT WAS A CANADIAN TRAVEL AGENCY WITHIN MEANING OF LAW GOVERNING COMPENSATION OF CREDITORS.

4. FOR TORONTO: PLEASE INCLUDE CONGRESSMAN LAGOMARSINO AS ADDRESSEE IN YOUR REPORT OF JANUARY 17 MEETING RESULTS.

ENDERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014